

CITY OF TUCSON ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Cut
Weeds/Grass
Under 6
inches

Tackle Tall Weeds & Grasses

Cooler temperatures and much-needed rainfall mean that gardens, trees and bushes are flourishing – and so are weeds and grasses. Tall weeds and grass can trigger allergies, cause respiratory problems, harbor pests and pose a potential fire hazard. According to City of Tucson Code Enforcement, home and property owners are responsible for:

- **Trimming weeds and grass on their property** to below 6 inches – about the height of a dollar bill.
- **Trimming weeds and grass in areas next to their property** including sidewalks, street easements and half of the width of an adjoining alley.

Please do your part to maintain your property and neighborhood!

PIMA COUNTY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

SAVE THE DATE!

IT'S THE 12TH ANNUAL GREASE COLLECTION EVENT!

Saturday, January 7, 2017

Pouring grease down the drain can clog sewer lines, so save your used cooking oil and grease and bring it to us!

The Event will be held at several area locations from **9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Check this month's *Wastewater News* or visit: www.pima.gov/grease for more details.



PIMA COUNTY

WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

Like us on Facebook!

Your utilities services statement includes fees for your water, environmental services, and wastewater.

Environmental Services (ES) (520) 791-3171 or visit tucsonaz.gov/environmental-services

Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) (520) 724-6500 or visit www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation

ARE YOU WATER
SMART?

Rainwater is salt-free.

True

False

Answer:
True: Rainwater is free of many chemicals and additives. That's one reason it's great to harvest rainwater and use it for irrigation.

WATER
Etc.

Customer Question

How can I take advantage of a rainwater harvesting rebate, grant or loan program?

You must be a single-family residential or small commercial Tucson Water customer to qualify for a Tucson Water rainwater harvesting rebate. And now there's a new rainwater harvesting grant or loan program, geared to eligible low-income families in the Tucson Water service area.

To qualify for any rainwater rebate, grant or loan program, applicants must complete a free Rainwater Harvesting Workshop offered through:

- Pima County Cooperative Extension/SmartScape Program www.ag.arizona.edu/pima/smartscape
- Watershed Management Group watershedmg.org
- Sonora Environmental Research Institute (SERI) www.seriaz.org/calendar

Before making an investment, get specifics on qualification guidelines, program requirements, and process at www.tucsonaz.gov/water/rwh-rebate or contact Tucson Water's Public Information/Conservation Office (PICO) at 520-791-4331 or pico@tucsonaz.gov.

WATER
MATTERS

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Urban Landscape Manager Irene Ogata links efficient water use with more shade trees and lush desert landscapes.

(See Working with Water, pg. 4 & 5)


tucsonaz.gov/water

WORKING WITH WATER

"Water is the number one way we take care of our public landscape," says **Irene Ogata, Tucson Water's new Urban Landscape Manager**. Ogata brings the utility a unique set of skills: a proven track record promoting sustainability, 20-plus years' experience as a landscape architect and planner, and an insider's knowledge of City of Tucson departments. Here she talks about her role that connects customer education, water efficiency and trees:

What is your biggest challenge and the solution? "Outside watering and irrigation consume approximately 27% of all residential water consumption. How do we care for plants without using additional drinking water? Growing a tree canopy – especially with native or drought tolerant trees – using rainwater and stormwater is a win for our community. It improves our community health!"

What's your role? "As a member of Tucson Water's Public Information and Conservation Office team, my primary role is to help develop policies related to increasing use of rainwater and stormwater and educate the public about efficiently collecting and using it on plants to grow a healthy urban forest."

(Rainwater + Stormwater) + Trees =

- More shade
- Decreases urban heat (5 to 10 degrees cooler)
- Increases oxygen production, cleaner air
- Improves water efficiency
- Reduces electric bills
- Creates more wildlife habitat
- Increases property values



Who are your customers? "Tucson Water staff, along with other City departments: Tucson Department of Transportation, Environmental Services, Planning & Development Services and Parks and Recreation. I also work with nonprofits: Tucson Clean & Beautiful, Watershed Management Group, Living Streets Alliance, and Sonora Environmental Research Institute (SERI)."

Aren't there rainwater rebates and incentives? "Yes. Tucson Water offers a rainwater harvesting rebate up to \$2,000 for qualifying residential single family and small commercial customers. Just a quick reminder: research rebate, loan, incentive or grant program guidelines **before** you buy equipment or put a shovel in the ground."

"Tucson Water, in partnership with nonprofit SERI, just launched a new Rainwater Harvesting Grant/Loan Program for eligible low-income families."

Any new projects that will link water reuse and tree growth? "Yes. We're working on a Neighborhood Stormwater Program now to promote using stormwater to grow more trees in the residential public street right-of-way."



EFFICIENCY HIGHLIGHTS



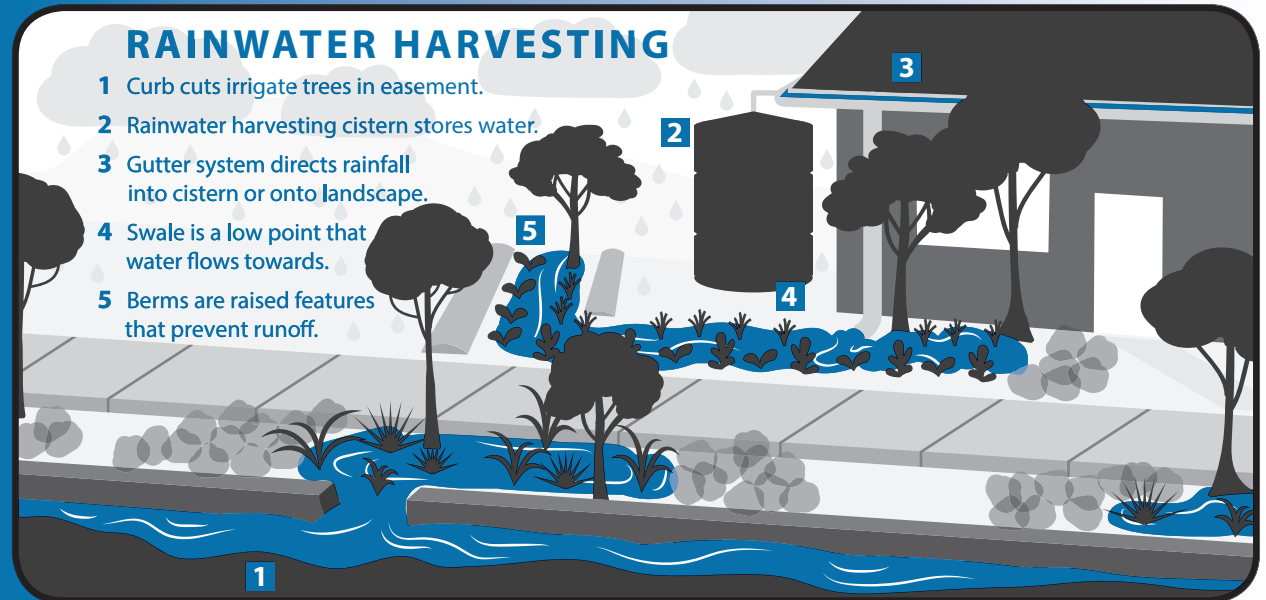
ZANJERO Tips

A ZANJERO IS A WATER CONSERVATION EXPERT

Proper maintenance helps to improve water efficiency. Cooler temperatures and shorter daylight hours mean it's time to adjust your irrigation/drip system timer for the season, drain water lines and cover an evaporative cooler, clean drain and rainwater cistern spouts of leaves and debris. Schedule a free home Zanjero review by contacting (520) 791-3242 or TW_CustomerService@tucsonaz.gov

RAINWATER HARVESTING

- 1 Curb cuts irrigate trees in easement.
- 2 Rainwater harvesting cistern stores water.
- 3 Gutter system directs rainfall into cistern or onto landscape.
- 4 Swale is a low point that water flows towards.
- 5 Berms are raised features that prevent runoff.



CLICK

tucsonaz.gov/
water

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CALL

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(520) 791-4331

TDD

(520) 791-2639

SOCIAL

